



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LANSING

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LT. GOVERNOR

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GOVERNOR GRANHOLM PROCLAIMS APRIL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

LANSING – Governor Jennifer M. Granholm today declared April Child Abuse Prevention Month in Michigan, noting more must be done to reduce child abuse. Granholm said about 350 children are victims of child abuse and neglect in the State of Michigan every day.

To provide greater protection for children at risk, Granholm said the Children's Trust Fund (CTF), the Family Independence Agency, and the Michigan Departments of Community Health and Education are working closely with communities to prevent child abuse and neglect now and in the future.

"We must be aggressive in our efforts to prevent and protect our precious children from abuse and neglect," Granholm said. "Children are 100 percent of Michigan's future. It is our duty to watch over them and make sure that they are safe in and out of their own homes. Every child deserves a healthy, safe environment in which to grow up, and it should be our collective mission to provide that in Michigan."

"Efforts to prevent abuse are more important today than ever. Since 1993, the number of children's protective services complaints investigated each year has risen 42 percent," said FIA Director Nannette M. Bowler. "The consequences of child abuse and neglect cost the nation's taxpayers more than \$94 billion annually, while prevention costs are significantly lower. We must all work together to ensure that our children are safe and given a chance at childhood."

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